mitigated. There should be a proper dicussion with the leaders of the employees' organisation so that this issue could be settled. The people in Kerala are facing problems. The pensioners and other people who are regularly in touch with the AG's Office are facing a lot of problems. So, I humbly request the Union Government to interfere in this issue and solve the problems which are faced in the AG's Office by the employees.

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, on this issue, there was an all-India agreement in 1992, and that agreement should be implemented. Twelve years have passed, the issue of stagnation was accepted and the promotions were due for half of the employees. I want to know from the Government why they are not implementing the agreement reached in 1992. For the last one month, work-to-rule is going on. Now, an indefinite fast is also going on. The situation is worsening and all the employees of the Accountant-General's office, throughout Kerala, are on an agitational path.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What do you want from the Central Government ?

SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : The Central Government must intervene and implement the agreement reached in 1992. That is my demand.

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA : Hon. Speaker, Sir, hailstorm, were reported from some areas. The crops of the peasants were damaged due to this and the Govt. of India have not provided a single penny as a compensation in this regard whereas Rajasthan Govt. is continuously extending help to them. So I request the Govt. of India to pay compensation to all those peasants whose crops were damaged. Normally the peasants refuse to accept the compensation cause of meagre amount. The stock of wheat lying in the F.C.I. is being rotted and the Govt. are not paying any attention towards It.

In the same way farmers of Haryana and Rajasthan are being given very less amount as compensation. I, therefore, demand that the rate of compensation should be raised and prescribed quota of wheat should be procured by the Government and farmers who have suffered losses due to hailstrom should be given compensation.....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI PHOOLAN DEVI (Mirzapur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to raise an issue pertaining to my Parliamentary Constituency, Mirzapur. I had raised this issue earlier also. My area is facing acute shortage of drinking water. During summar season the level of ground water taken out from handpumps also goes down. Drinking water is distributed through tankers once In a day there and that too is distributed in a measured quantity like edible oil or ghee. In view of the Government's programme for providing drinking water facility to every area I request you to make arrangements for providig drinking water facility for those people also. This area also faces the shortage of water for irrigation, because check-dams have been constructed on local canals for providing water to the residents of Allahabad. When drought had struck there the Government and the officials were collecting revenue but the drought affected persons were not given compensation.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would submit that the Government should provide drinking water to those people and compensation to drought affected persons. I thank you for giving me a chance to speak.....*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA (Dhanbad) : Please listen to me. I am going to say what you all wanted to say.....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : You are disturbing her. She wants to say something.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the issue regarding more participation of women in politics is debated in this House time and again. We talk of giving reservation to them, but we must also ponder over that those women who dare to enter politics are subjected to misbehaviour. How many more women will dare to enter into politics under such circumstances.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the women in Bihar who are active in politics there have been facing this ill-treatement. I, myself faced such an incident in January. I was slapped and arrested in false case. Recently 'Bihar Bandh' was organised on 3rd of this month. In this bandh, women Members of the BJP and Samata Party were given ill treatment. The extreme part of the sarees worn by of Kanchan Bala and Madhu of Samata Party and several women workers of the BJP were pulled, their arms were twisted and they were detained in the prison. The only woman legislator of the BJP in Bihar is Chandramukhi Devi. Her arm was twisted when she went out to organise the 'bandh'. She had to take shelter in an outlet of Khadi Gramodyog to save her honour. When her husband came forward to protect her his hand was broken. They also tried to set their car on fire.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, in such circumstances, how many women will dare to enter politics and how many husbands and family members will permit them to do so. Is this House of the view that women taking part in politics should lose their honours and diginity ? If not, then the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs should have been present here and he should have responded to the points raised here on such an important issue. You should create circumstances for increasing participation of women in politics. The Minister of Home Affairs should present a report before the House regarding such incidents.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to make a submission that the battle of Mahabharata was fought over insult of a woman and now a days, a number of women are being insulted in Bihar. An incident bigger than Mahabharta can take place there. Sir, kindly direct, Home Minister to make a statement on this incident. The House should condemn the ill-treatment meted out to Chandramuki Devi a legislator .....*(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI BHAVNABEN DEVRAJ BHAI CHIKHALIA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a serious matter and the Government should make a statement on it.....*(Interruptions)*

PROF. RITA VERMA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, some instructions should be given to the Government. At least

debate should be held In this House on this subject .....*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : It will be taken note of.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA (Pali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have not been given a chance to speak .....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you know how many members sitting around you have got a chance to speak ? Please sit down you will also be given a chance.

(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Don't cast aspersions. I do not expect it from you at least. You are justice. I have to fully distribute the time. I have never taken that view.

[Translation]

SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS (Kalahandi) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the western part of Orissa has been facing the problem of drought continuously for many years. This issue has been raised here time and again but the problem remains unresolved. I am very sorry to say that even the drinking water facility which is essential for everyone, could not be provided to these much debated drought-prone districts.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, the water level has fallen quite low due to continuous drought. The required number of tubewells could not be installed. In Kalahandi district itself more than one hundred cattle like cow and oxens have died and thousands are lying sick. Farmers are unable to provide drinking water to cattle and as a result, they are selling a large number of cattle in nearby areas of Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

People are suffering from various kinds of diseases due to non-availability of drinking water. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the problem of drinking water being faced by the most backward area of Orissa will not be solved ? Sir, through you, I demand that 1500 tubewells should be installed in all the drought affected districts of Kalahandi, Naupara, Balanggir, Padampur, Sonepur and Bodh and arrangements should be made for drinking water in municipality area.

[English]

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : All right, I will look into the problem.

[Translation]

PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA (Patiala) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government have not done justice to farmers while determining the prices of wheat for this year. As you all are aware that the price of wheat was Rs. 800 per quintal when wheat crop was standing in fields but the day it reached the homes of farmers its prices came down to Rs. 415. Farmers have been given bonus of Rs. 60 which is a meagre amount. There is discontentment among farmers and they have launched an agitation. Our Minister of Agriculture had visited Punjab and we had given him figures on it. Agriculture is the backbone of our economy and it is incurring losses. Therefore, I would like to say that a comprehensive policy on agriculture should be formulated to make it beneficial. Today, farmers are reeling under debt burden. In the statement made by the hon. Minister of Agriculture, it has been said that the remunerative price of wheat which has been fixed Rs. 415 per quintal and the bonus of Rs. 60 costs Rs. 785 to the Government. The expenditure incurred on storage, transportation and handling of foodgrains and the money embezzled in various scams has also been included in it. I would like to say one more thing that the figures given by the Minister are wrong. He has written a letter to all the M.Ps to mislead them alongwith the farmers. He has written that :-

[English]

> "On an analysis of expenditure figures of transporting the wheat from Ludhiana to Chennai and of importing it from Australia to Chennai, it was observed that the cost of both is almost the same, that is, Rs. 720/- per quintal."

[Translation]

It is totally wrong. You all may be aware that transporation charge of foodgrains from Ludhiana is around Rs. 45-50 per quintal. I would like to say that our farmers should be paid the amount which the farmers of foreign countries from where we import wheat, are given.

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH : Sir, the law and order situation has deteriorated in Uttar Pradesh since the coalition Government was formed there. The workers of Samajwadi party are being killed in selective manner there in broad day light. Now-a-days the trinity of lottery, transfers and filing of fake cases against some specific persons in the name of atrocities against harijans are on its peak in U.P. The law and order situation is such that in the coalition Government.....*(Interruptions)** Officials are dancing to the tune of politicians in power. The persons – against whom 30 or 40 cases are registered, have not been arrested.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : That word will have to be withdrawn and it will not go on record.

[Translation]

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the students problem has risen in Uttar Pradesh since this Government took over. Farmers are being exploited. The potato produced by them is decaying. The students who had taken Oath in Banaras were killed in the broad day light. The Chairman of a bank in Etawah was murdered. In the same way, murders have been committed in Mainpuri. Communal harmony has been disturbed and communal disturbance was created in Ghaziabad and Mathura.....*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Do you know that law and order situation is a State subject ?

KUNWAR SARVARAJ SINGH : I am raising this issue here because the law and order situation is now out of

*Not Recorded.